

REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the examination to date and for allowing claims 24, 27, 29, 31, 33, and 38. Since the Reply filed March 8, 2010 is not entered, the Applicants hereby submit a supplemental Reply to advance the prosecution of the present Applicant towards allowance and respectfully request entry thereof.

I. Information Disclosure Statement

The Applicants respectfully request that each of Documents A10-A14 submitted on March 8, 2010 be considered by the Office and be made of record in the present application and further respectfully request that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 as filed on May 10, 2006, be returned in accordance with MPEP § 609. The Applicants note that the submitted documents were courtesy copies of the documents cited in an Information Disclosure Statement already submitted to the Office on May 10, 2006, which have not been initialed and considered. The listed documents were cited in the corresponding International Search Report in the present national stage application.

II. Status of the Claims and Claim Objections

Merely to advance the prosecution of the present application towards allowance, the Applicants hereby cancel claims 23, 25-26, 28, 30, 32, and 39-43, which are not yet allowed. The Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the cancelled claims in a divisional/continuation application. Claim 27 is amended for a minor editorial change; the Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to claim 27 should now be moot.

No new matter is introduced, and currently pending claims are claims 24, 27, 29, 31, 33, and 38, each of which has been deemed allowable.

CONCLUSION

The Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully request favorable reconsideration of the application.

The Office is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, the Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorize payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

April 6, 2010

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